



The Dippenaar family of South Africa

The progenitor of the Dippenaar family of South Africa is Johann Martin Depner. He came from Wehlau in East Prussia (previously part of Germany). This area was later incorporated into Russia in 1945 after the Second World War. Johann became a soldier in the service of the D.E.I.C. and arrived in Cape Town on 7 November 1735 on the vessel *Beukestyn*. In 1746 Johann resigned from the D.E.I.C. and became a free burgher, initially in Stellenbosch and later in Drakenstein. He later farmed on the picturesque farm *Groenvlei* near Citrusdal, located halfway between the Piekenierskloof Pass (N7) and the Olifants River, close to Citrusdal's hot springs. Johann died in 1790 at a relative elderly age. He married Maria Magdalena Smit in 1748 and together they had 10 children, consisting of five sons and five daughters. His Dippenaar family name is carried forward by three of his sons:

- Michaelis Christoffel (*b5: with descendants in the Eastern Cape, Free State and Transvaal*)
- Andries Petrus (*b6: with descendants in the Swartland, Namaqualand and the Western Cape*)
- Alwyn Johannes (*b9: with descendants in the Eastern Cape, Free State and Transvaal*).

The Dippenaars made their distinct mark in South African history. Some celebrities among them include:

- Laurie Dippenaar, founder of the First Rand Banking Group
- Boeta Dippenaar, Protea cricketer
- Prof. Ansie Dippenaar-Schoeman (by marriage), arachnologist
- Erik Dippenaar, internationally acclaimed musician and organist
- Dr. Anton Rupert (descendant), industrialist
- Petra Müller (descendant), poet and writer
- Stephan Dippenaar, rugby player for the Blue Bulls and SA Sevens
- Kobus Dippenaar, internationally acclaimed fashion designer
- Dewald Dippenaar, contemporary singer

The book, entitled ***Die Dippenaar-familie van Suid-Afrika***, (as published in 2015) includes:

- A professional brown A4 paperback book with a total of 659 pages
- More than 400 photographs, signatures and illustrations
- A family tree of 302 pages and more than 12,000 names with an additional surname index of 38 pages
- Numerous anecdotes and historical jewels on the family.

This is the most comprehensive publication of the Dippenaar family of South Africa to date and a sought after collector's item. The book is compiled in **Afrikaans**, but accommodates English readers too by means of English descriptions in three of the core chapters to guide them to an easier understanding of the basic contents.

There is still a hand full of copies for sale on a first come first served basis at R550 per set (shipment via PostNet courier service in South Africa included). The shipping costs *abroad* are available from me on request. If you want to avoid shipment, you can buy a book from me personally in Bellville (Cape Town) at a discounted price of R450 per set.

Please contact the author, Isak Bosman, if you would like to place an order.

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